

SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACT SHEET

Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services

This fact sheet contains information about the impact of alcohol and other drug use in the Fourth Worcester Representative District. Admission data were reported to the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Substance Abuse Management Information System in FY 2002.

Residents of Fourth Worcester Representative District

Characteristics of Admissions

In FY 2002, there were 124,539 admissions to licensed substance abuse treatment services in all of Massachusetts; less than one percent (644) of these admissions reside in the Fourth Worcester Representative District. 3% (19) of admissions from the Fourth Worcester Representative District were under 17 years of age. **Please note that these statistics represent only individual admissions, and represent a figure lower than the actual number of constituents in need of treatment services.** In FY 2002, admissions to all residential and outpatient substance abuse treatment services from the Fourth Worcester Representative District reported the following characteristics:

- 80% were male and 20% were female.
- 62% were between the ages of 21-39.
- 77% were white non-Latino, 5% were black non-Latino, 14% were Latino, and 5% were other racial categories.
- 69% were never married, 9% were married, and 22% reported not to be married now.
- 30% had less than high school education, 53% completed high school, and 17% had more than high school education.
- 30% were employed.
- 15% were homeless.
- 23% had prior mental health treatment.

Primary Substance of Use

At admission clients also identify a “primary drug” of use that is the substance for which the client is seeking treatment. Table 1 compares the proportional distribution of primary drugs in Massachusetts with that for the Fourth Worcester Representative District.

Table 1					
Primary Drug by District and State FY 2002					
	Alcohol	Heroin	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack
District	43%	45%	5%	2%	3%
State	45%	37%	6%	4%	3%

Substances Used in Past Year

Upon entering treatment, each client is asked to report ALL substances used in the past year (12 months) prior to admission. Admissions frequently report using more than one substance within the year. The use of more than one psychoactive substance, such as alcohol and marijuana, is referred to as ‘polydrug’ or ‘polysubstance’ use.

Table 2 shows ALL substances which clients reported using in the year prior to admission, as well as the prevalence of injection drug users (or IDU's), individuals who use a needle to ingest cocaine, crack, heroin or another drug to get high.

Table 2 Annual Admissions by Substance Used: FY 1995 – FY 2002							
Fourth Worcester Representative District							
	Total	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	IDU
FY '95	655	555	236	187	167	106	70
FY '96	631	542	223	197	169	126	72
FY '97	606	498	214	201	150	176	102
FY '98	765	642	273	228	179	242	149
FY '99	716	575	246	213	160	253	165
FY '00	781	609	280	244	197	376	282
FY '01	721	505	198	177	156	335	210
FY '02	644	435	144	175	101	316	253